

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065645

EXDIS BELGRADE FOR AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO PORG

SUBJECT: DUTCH REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON US-ILO POLICY.

REF: (A) THE HAGUE 930, (B) BELGRADE 1613, (C) GENEVA 1919.

1. IN DEPARTMENT'S VIEW SO-CALLED GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT IS PREPROSTEROUS ON ITS FACE AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED, IF AT ALL, ONLY TO DISMISS IT. VELDKAMP AND AGO COULD HARDLY ENTER INTO AN INFORMAL AGREEMENT BINDING WESTERN EUROPE, AND IN ANY CASE ONE WOULD EXPECT THAT AN AGREEMENT OF THIS NATURE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICES OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

2. THIS MATTER WAS MENTIONED TO US PREVIOUSLY BY DUTCH, WITH CHAIRMANSHIP OF GOVERNING BODY RATHER THAN CONFERENCE PRESIDENCY BEING SUBJECT OF THE SO-CALLED AGREEMENT. DURING 1974 CONFERENCE VELDKAMP RAISED QUESTION OF AGREEMENT INVOLVING CHAIRMANSHIP GOVERNING BODY WITH DALE GOOD, WHO
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TOLD VELDKAMP THERE MUST BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING. GOOD

NOTED FURTHER THAT THIS QUESTION HAD NOT BEEN RAISED WITH US BY OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND THAT IN ANY CASE THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR POLITICAL QUESTIONS, KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT. TO IMPLY THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS A PARTY TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT WAS THEREFORE ERRONEOUS.

3. IF ISSUE ARISES IN DISCUSSION WITH DUTCH, SUGGEST AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN SAY THAT THERE MUST BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING, AND THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ENTER INTO AGREEMENT THIS KIND. KISSINGER

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